

Officials in Concord said must be examined in 30-day evaluation process

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# Lakes Region Eyed as Site For Movie, TV Productions

The New Hampshire Film Bureau, a new program designed to attract and assist the film industry for using New Hampshire as a filming site, is about to begin operations, Gov. Hugh Gallen has announced.

Martha V. Leighton of Strafford has been hired as the film bureau's executive director, and three of the seven advisory board members have been named. They are Charles Gaines of South Newbury, who will serve as chairman; Barbara Boran Dunfey of Rye; and Penny Pitou of Gilford.

The film bureau, to be funded by an economic development grant from the New England Regional Commission, will be part of the Department of Resources and Economic Development.

"New Hampshire has a lot to offer the film industry for locations — a beautiful and diversified natural terrain, the full range of seasons, and a wide mix of architectural styles in its buildings and cities. The task of the film bureau will be to promote what New Hampshire has to offer and to make sure that the industry does not get bogged down in red tape and delays," Gallen said.

Inquiries have already been received from four producers. Last weekend a location scout from one of them toured the Lakes Region and another was here during the week.

Other states that have set up similar film bureaus have witnessed significant success. In Georgia, for instance, state officials say that

more than \$150 million has been infused into the state's economy by the film industry since the inception of their film bureau in 1970.

When "The Gathering" was filmed in Portsmouth last year, state officials estimate about half a million dollars was pumped into the Seacoast

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Region's economy during the location work.

Leighton, an honors graduate from the University of New Hampshire in 1974, served as a film assistant during the shooting of "The Gathering" and also as a film assistant during the

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## Bridge Mishap Death Toll 31

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — A 609-foot freighter rammed the Sunshine Skyway Bridge during a storm yesterday, tearing away a large section of the 15-mile span and sending a Grayhound

sank.

The Summit Venture crunched into the towering bridge across the main ship channel during a thunderstorm with winds gusting to 90 mph about 7:20 a.m. A